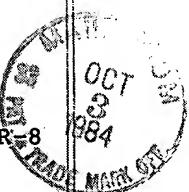


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : John T. M. Wright et. al.
Serial No. : 316,203 Art Unit : 332
Filed : October 29, 1981 Examiner : R. Frinks
For : VALVE HOLDER FOR TRICUSPID HEART VALVE

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Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

STATUS INQUIRY

Dear Sir:

On April 2, 1984 Applicants' attorney received a communication (Paper No. 8, mailed March 26, 1984) from the Examiner in charge of the above captioned patent application, stating that a reference relevant to the examination of this application may soon become available and advising that ex parte prosecution is suspended for a period of six months. In accordance with the Examiner's instructions, Applicants now respectfully request that they be advised of the status of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence D. Schuler
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 26,334

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October 1, 1984